

Practitioner's Docket No. U 013648-7



PATENT

1733
4

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent application

of _____

Inventor(s)

for _____

Title of invention

OR

In re application of: Marinus Antonius Leonarda VAN HECK

Serial No.: 09/955,471

Group No.: 1733

Filed: September 18, 2001

Examiner: - -

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR CONNECTING THE END OF A FLATTENED TUBE OF PLASTIC FOIL TO THE BEGINNING OF A SUBSEQUENT TUBE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING OR
BEFORE MAILING OF FIRST OFFICE ACTION (37 C.F.R. 1.97(b))

NOTE: "An information disclosure statement shall be considered by the Office if filed by the applicant: (1) within three months of the filing date of a national application; (2) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application; or (3) before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last." 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b).

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a) and 1.10*

(When using Express Mail, the Express Mail label number is mandatory;
Express Mail certification is optional.)

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

MAILING

- ☒ deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

37 C.F.R. 1.10*

- ☒ with sufficient postage as first class mail.

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- ☐ transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office.

Signature

William R. Evans

(type or print name of person certifying)

Date: November 20, 2001

*WARNING: Each paper or fee filed by "Express Mail" must have the number of the "Express Mail" mailing label placed thereon prior to mailing. 37 C.F.R. 1.10(b).

"Since the filing of correspondence under § 1.10 without the Express Mail mailing label thereon is an oversight that can be avoided by the exercise of reasonable care, requests for waiver of this requirement will not be

granted on petition." Notice of Oct. 24, 1996, 60 Fed. Reg. 56,439, at 56,442.

NOTE: The "filing date of a national application" under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) has two possible meanings. Where the filing is a direct one to the United States Patent & Trademark office, the filing is defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) as "the date on which: (1) A specification containing a description pursuant to § 1.71 and at least one claim pursuant to § 1.75; and (2) any drawing required by § 1.81(a), are filed in the Patent and Trademark Office in the name of the actual inventor or inventors as required by § 1.41." 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(1). On the other hand, an international application that enters the national stage occurs when the applicant has filed the documents and fees required by 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) within the periods set forth in § 1.494 or § 1.495. 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) requires the filing of the following: (1) the national fee; (2) a copy of the international application, unless already sent by the International Bureau, and an English translation if filed in another language; (3) amendments under PCT Article 19, with a translation into English if made in another language; (4) an oath or declaration; and (5) a translation into English of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report, if such annexes were made in another language. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(2).

IDENTIFICATION OF TIME OF FILING THE ACCOMPANYING INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b).

NOTE: "No certification or fee is due when the filing is made within the above time period. It is advisable to ensure that no Office action has been mailed if the disclosure statement is delayed until after three months from filing."

NOTE: "An information disclosure statement will be considered to have been filed on the day it was received in the Office, or on an earlier date of a mailing if accompanied by a properly executed certificate of mailing under 37 C.F.R. 1.8, or Express Mail certificate under 37 C.F.R. 1.10. An office action is mailed on the date indicated in the Office action." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

NOTE: "The term 'national application' includes continuing applications (continuations, divisions, continuations-in-part) so three-months will be measured from the actual filing date of an application as opposed [sic] to the effective date of a continuing application." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

NOTE: "An action on the merits means an action which treats the patentability of the claims in an application, as opposed to only formal or procedural requirements. An action on the merits would, for example, contain a rejection or indication of allowability of a claim or claims rather than just a restriction requirements (37 C.F.R. 1.142) or just a requirement for additional fees to have a claim considered (37 C.F.R. 1.16(d)). Thus, if an application was filed on Jan. 1 and the first Office action on the merits was not mailed until six months later on July 1, the examiner would be required to consider any proper information disclosure statement filed prior to July 1." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

WARNING: "A petition for suspension of action to allow applicant time to submit an information disclosure statement will be denied as failing to present good and sufficient reasons, since 37 C.F.R. 1.97 provides adequate recourse for the timely submission of prior art for consideration by the examiner." Notice of July 6, 1992 (1141 O.G. 63).

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SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

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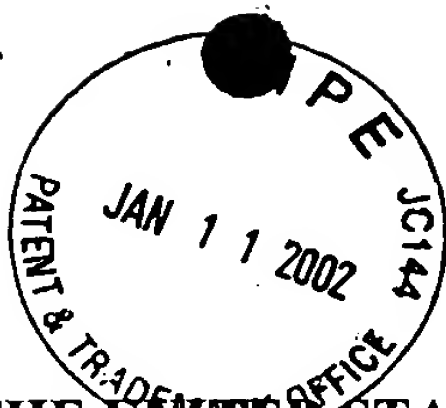
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PATENT

#4
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Marinus Antonius Leonarda VAN HECK

Serial No.: 09/955,471

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Filed: September 18, 2001

Examiner: - -

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Attorney Docket: U 013648-7

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

We draw the attention of the Examiner to the attached non-English
International-type Search Report of a foreign office in respect of counterpart
Netherlands Application No.: NL 1016442 and an English-language version
thereof indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office. The
Search Report makes consideration of any non-English art required.
MPEP 609.

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TC 1700

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being
attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service
on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an
envelope addressed to the: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,
Washington, D.C. 20231


William R. Evans
(Type or print name of person mailing paper)

Date: November 20, 2001

(Signature of person mailing paper)

Form PTO-1449 is attached with reference copies.

Respectfully Submitted,



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